



EPA's Lower Manhattan Test and Clean Program

SERVICES FOR BUILDING COMMON AREAS

Owners, boards of cooperatives or condominiums and managers of residential or commercial buildings can request to have their building's common areas and HVAC system evaluated and cleaned, as necessary.

Those who request services must certify that they are fully authorized to do so by signing a "Building Request and Consent for Access Form" and providing appropriate legal documentation of such authority such as, a resolution of a condominium or cooperative board, a deed, long-term lease for the entire building, or other legally sufficient indication of ownership and/or authority.

Residential tenants must register their individual units with the Lower Manhattan Test and Clean program by calling the hotline at: 1-888-747-7725.

Individual employers or employees should contact the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) or National Institute for Safety and Health (NIOSH) to request evaluations of conditions in their workplaces.

<http://www.osha.gov/as/opa/worker/complain.html>

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/hhe/Request.html>

EPA will only test common areas such as building lobbies and hallways. Multiple air samples will be taken where HVAC outlets discharge into common areas of buildings.

EPA will test for the same contaminants-lead, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), asbestos and man-made vitreous fibers in building common areas as in individual residential units. We will use the same contaminant levels to determine whether cleanups are needed in residential units and in common areas.

If lead is found at levels above the benchmark and a cleanup is required, EPA or one of its contractors will conduct a survey of possible sources of the lead such as lead-based paint. Similarly, if asbestos is found, EPA will look for possible sources of asbestos such as thermal pipe insulation, floor and ceiling tiles, or other nearby sources. If necessary, cleanups will be conducted by a state or city certified contractor with EPA oversight.